

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Richard LaCava on 12/1/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

Referring to claim 34, delete "capable of"

Referring to claims 35, 36, 37, delete "is capable of"

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 3-13, 16-25, 27-31, 34-37, 43-47, & 51-55 are allowed.

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 3-13, 16-25, 27-31, 34-37, 43-47, & 51-55 are considered allowable since no prior art reference or combination of prior art references alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in the independent claims in combination with other claim limitations including "wherein said switching apparatus comprises:

A client side processing unit for accepting a connection from said client to manage a connection with the client for transmitting and receiving a packet to and from the client, said client side processing unit comprising:

a client side terminating unit for controlling a connection with said client to accept a connection and request from said client; and

a client side updating unit for rewriting the header information of a packet to be transmitted from said server to said client to relay the rewritten packet, and

a server side processing unit for accessing said server to manage a connection with the server for transmitting and receiving a packet to and from the server, said server side processing unit comprising:

a server side terminating unit for managing a connection with said server to relay an instruction and data directed to said server which are sent from said client side terminating unit, and

a server side updating unit for accepting a packet to be transmitted from said server to said client to send the packet to said client side updating unit” as specified in claim 3.

“wherein said client side processing unit comprises:

A client side terminating unit for managing a connection with each of the plurality of clients to accept a connection and a request therefrom, and

A client side updating unit for rewriting header information of a packet to be transmitted from said server to said client to relay the rewritten packet, and wherein said server side processing unit comprises:

A server side terminating unit for managing a connection with each of the plurality of servers to relay an instruction and data directed to each said plurality of servers which are sent from said client side terminating unit, and

A server side updating unit for accepting a packet to be transmitted from each of the plurality of servers to relaying an instruction and data directed to each said plurality of clients to send the packet to said client side updating unit” as specified in claim 16

“managing a connection with said client to accept a connection and a request from said client,

Rewriting header information of a packet to be transmitted from said server to said client to relay the rewritten packet; and

Managing a connection with said server to relay an instruction and data directed to said server and sent from said client

Wherein the header information of said packet comprises;

A sequence number indicative of in transmission divided into individual packets order of data in the packet,

A data length in and below a transport layer of the packet,

An Ack number indicative of a sequence number of data that a communication partner has already received, and

A Win value indicative of a remaining capacity of a reception buffer that the communication partner is yet to receive “as specified in claim 27.

“relay transmission of packet form a plurality of said servers directed to one of said clients, and

Remove from the header information of a packet to be relayed, a flag indicative of the end of transmission of the packet at each of the plurality of said servers,

Thereby relaying a packet transmitted by the switching of said plurality of servers to said one of the clients without cut-off of a connection with said one of the clients” as specified in claim 34.

“wherein the header information of said packet further comprises a Win value indicative of a remaining capacity of a reception buffer that the communication partner is yet to receive” as specified in claim 43.

“a Win value indicative of a remaining capacity in a reception buffer that the communication partner is yet to receive” as specified in claim 51.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT W. WILSON whose telephone number is (571)272-3075. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on 571/272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Robert W Wilson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2419

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